

WEST BUSSELTON DENTAL THERAPY CLINIC

428. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the West Busselton dental therapy clinic.

- (1) How many full-time dental therapists are employed to service schoolchildren at this clinic?
- (2) What formula is used to determine the allocation of hours for the following staff at this and other regional clinics -
 - (a) administrative staff;
 - (b) dental therapists; and
 - (c) dentists?
- (3) How much funding has the West Busselton dental therapy clinic received in the following financial years: 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07?
- (4) Has funding been allocated to upgrade computer systems and administrative support services to this clinic and other regional school dental therapy clinics?
- (5) If so, how much and when will these upgrades take place?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) There is one full-time equivalent dental therapist employed at the West Busselton dental therapy centre.
- (2)
 - (a) There are no administrative staff based at any regional clinic. All administrative duties are carried out at the Dental Health Services facility in Como.
 - (b) The usual dental therapist to enrolled patient ratio is one to 2 050. The ratio for the West Busselton dental therapy centre is one to 1 600.
 - (c) The usual dental officer to enrolled patient ratio is one to 12 500. The ratio for the Busselton area is one to 10 127.
- (3) The West Busselton dental therapy centre received the following funding: 2003-04, \$143 388; 2004-05, \$155 228; 2005-06, \$226 715; and 2006-07, \$215 391, year to date.
- (4) There are no computer systems or administrative support at any of the regional school dental therapy clinics - see response to (2)(a).
- (5) Not applicable.